Visit to the Tanneries and the Potteries by Pandit Malaviya.

74. **Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.**—Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that the Stoneware Factory and the Tanneries at Chalakkudi were visited by Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, and if so, what are the remarks, if any, he has made about these institutions?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Yes; a copy of the remarks is appended. (*Vide Appendix II.*)

Potteries.

75. **Mr. C. J. Mathew.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether Pandit Malaviya visited the Potteries at Chalakkudi, and if so, whether he made any observations, with regard to the existing state of affairs there;

(2) whether the Pandit made any suggestions with regard to the future working of the Potteries, and if so, what are his suggestions;

(3) what are the remarks he made in the Visitors' Book there;

(4) whether the Government have succeeded in getting a certain expert from Calcutta to agree to come down and report on the Potteries; if not, what is the delay due to;

(5) whether the Government have in view any definite policy for the progre sive working of the Potteries in the year 1105;

(6) whether the foreman in charge of the Potteries is willing t undergo training abroad, and if so, whether the Government have any objection to send him and get him properly trained;

(7) whether a certain teacher of the High School, Chalakkudi, and who for some time was doing duty in the Potteries, applied for a scholarship to execute studies in Potteries, and if so, whether this gentleman was given the scholarship; if not, why not;

(8) whether they are willing to lease the Potteries to private individuals on reasonable term ; if so, under what terms;

(9) whether anybody has so far made any offer to lease the Potteries, and if so, why the offer is not accepted;

(10) whether there are any offers even now pending disposal, and if so, from whom?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(1) Yes.
(2) Yes. Vide answer to question No. 74
(3) Vide 2 above.
(4) Yes.
(5) Yes.

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(6) The foreman was not referred to on the point.

(7) An application for scholarship was received by the Economic Development Committee. The Committee did not think it necessary to recommend it to the Government.

(8) They are prepared to consider proposals.

(9) One Mr. E. J. Smith of Calicut enquired whether the Potteries could be leased out to him. He was told that it could be leased on a monthly rental of Rs. 3,500 exclusive of insurance charges of the buildings estimated to cost Rs. 2 lakhs. Mr. Smith seems to have dropped the matter.

(10) No.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—May I know who is the expert that is coming down to report on the Potteries?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—One Mr. Debb of Culcutta.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—And the terms under which he is coming?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Mr. Debb comes to the Potteries, inspects the works and gives a report containing the best lines for the future working of the Potteries under which it should be conducted.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—How much is he to be paid for that?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—He is to be paid Rs. 2,000 if he reports that it could be worked on profitable lines, and if he condemns the whole thing, then he is to be paid Rs. 1,000 and travelling expenses.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Has any policy been laid down under which the Potteries is working now?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—What is the policy?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—We are manufacturing minton tiles, jars, etc.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Has anything been done to organise that commercial side of the factory as suggested by Malaviya?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—We are calling for agents to get the manufactured articles sold.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Under what terms are you calling in these agents? Whether any monopoly is given to any one, or whether the area is specified for his operations, *i.e.*, throughout the State, or a monopoly over a particular manufactured article, etc.

Mr. V. K. Aravindakhsa Menon.—I do not know whether they would ask for an exclusive agency throughout the State.

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Mr. C. J. Mathew.—With reference to the answers given to sub-divisions (6) and (7), may I knowwould it not be better to send a man outside and get him trained ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Government do not consider it worthwhile to send a man outside the State to foreign countries to get him trained in this line. We had people sent from here to foreign countries to be trained. As in the case of the present Pottery expert, Mr. Balappa, when he came down here, conditions were so different that it proved a complete failure.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Suppose we send a Cochinite to Japan or anywhere else ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—People who go to Japan have to work under great disabilities. They are not given facilities to train themselves as we would wish them to train.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Is the Government of opinion that there is absolutely no good in getting a Cochinite trained in Potteries in Japan or anywhere else ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—All previous experiments have proved a failure. If any Cochinite gets himself trained and gives us satisfaction that he is able to work the Potteries, then Government will be glad to entertain him.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Will the Government give an assurance ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—It depends on certain other factors also. So Government cannot give an assurance now.

Cohcin Tanneries.

76. **Mr. C. J. Mathew.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether the Government have come to any definite conclusion as to whether they should recover the loan advanced to the Cochin Tanneries, Ltd. by proceeding against the properties of the said Company; or

(2) whether they should start to work the Company themselves;

(3) whether any offers have come since 1103 (except that of one Mr. Nettoo) to lease the concern, and if so, from whom and under what terms;

(4) whether Mr. A. B. Salem or anybody else at his instance or through him has made any offer, and if so, when;

(5) if there is no offer or proposal at present pending disposal, why is it the Government do not take to some definite

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